

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

Game Branch / HPC Project Number: 13-306

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Catchment 483 Drake #4 Redevelopment

Region and Game Management Unit: Region 3 / GMU 19B

Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):

- Prescott HPC

Was the project presented to the LHPC?

YES[X] **NO**[]

Has this project been submitted in previous years? **YES**[] **NO**[X]

If Yes, was it funded? **YES**[] **NO**[] → **Funded HPC Project #**(s):

Project Type: Wildlife Water Catchment Redevelopment

Brief Project Summary:

This project will be a complete redevelopment of wildlife water catchment 483 Drake #4. The existing concrete vault system is very near the end of its effective lifespan. The catchment needs to be repaired and enlarged to increase its storage capacity to keep up with wildlife demands. The current storage tank does not keep up with current wildlife use, and water hauling efforts are needed every summer. This catchment is currently priority 4 of 4 in the Big Black Mesa Wildlife Water Development Plan.

Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule Deer, Pronghorn, Javelina, Mountain Lion

Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date: Spring 2014

Project End Date: Spring 2016

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA Completed: **Yes**[X] **No**[] **N/A**[]

Projected Completion Date: _____

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

Yes[X] **No**[] **N/A**[]

Projected Completion Date: _____

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: **N/A**[]

To be Completed by: Joe Currie

Projected Completion Date: Pending Funding

PROJECT FUNDING

Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested: \$ 24,628.10

Cost Share or Matching Funds: \$ 22,000.00

Total Project Costs: \$ **46,628.10**

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant (please print):

Jake Fousek

Address:

AGFD, Region III

5325 N Stockton Hill Rd

Kingman, AZ 86409

E-mail:

jfousek@azgfd.gov

Telephone: 928 583 4951

Date: August 30, 2013

AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):

Project has been coordinated with:

Joe Currie, AGFD Development Branch

James Gilsdorf, Noel Fletcher, USFS Prescott National Forest

NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

The Big Black Mesa area on the Prescott National Forest in GMU 19B is one of only two areas that has public access in GMU 19B. AGFD wildlife water developments provide most of the reliable water sources for wildlife in the area. Earthen livestock tanks in the area have not held reliable water in recent years. The objective of the Big Black Mesa Wildlife Water Development Plan is the redevelopment of 4 existing AGFD water developments and the construction of one new wildlife water development on Big Black Mesa to meet present and future needs of wildlife. This landscape approach will address wildlife water concerns for all the publicly-owned lands on the mesa.

Catchment 483 Drake #4 is located on the margin of the Big Chino grasslands and the juniper woodland southwest of the mesa. It has continuous use by mule deer, pronghorn, and javelina. Although still somewhat functional, the crumbling concrete trough is representative of the catchments age and overall condition. Catchment 483 Drake #4 was built in 1957, and the 2000 gallon storage tank was intended to be sufficient for wildlife levels in the area. The overall climate and wildlife populations have changed since then, causing increased use by wildlife in the area.

The mule deer and pronghorn in this area are often hunted by tag holders, as this is one of the only publicly accessible areas in GMU 19B.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- To improve water availability for wildlife, specifically mule deer and pronghorn.
- To increase hunter opportunity.
- To increase the life expectancy and dependability of this catchment.
- To decrease or eliminate the need for supplemental water hauling efforts at this catchment.
- To implement the Statewide Water Development Implementation Plan, and the Big Black Mesa Wildlife Water Development Plan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:

Utilize Big Game Special Tag Funds and personnel from the AGFD Development Branch to remove the old system, and install the new system.

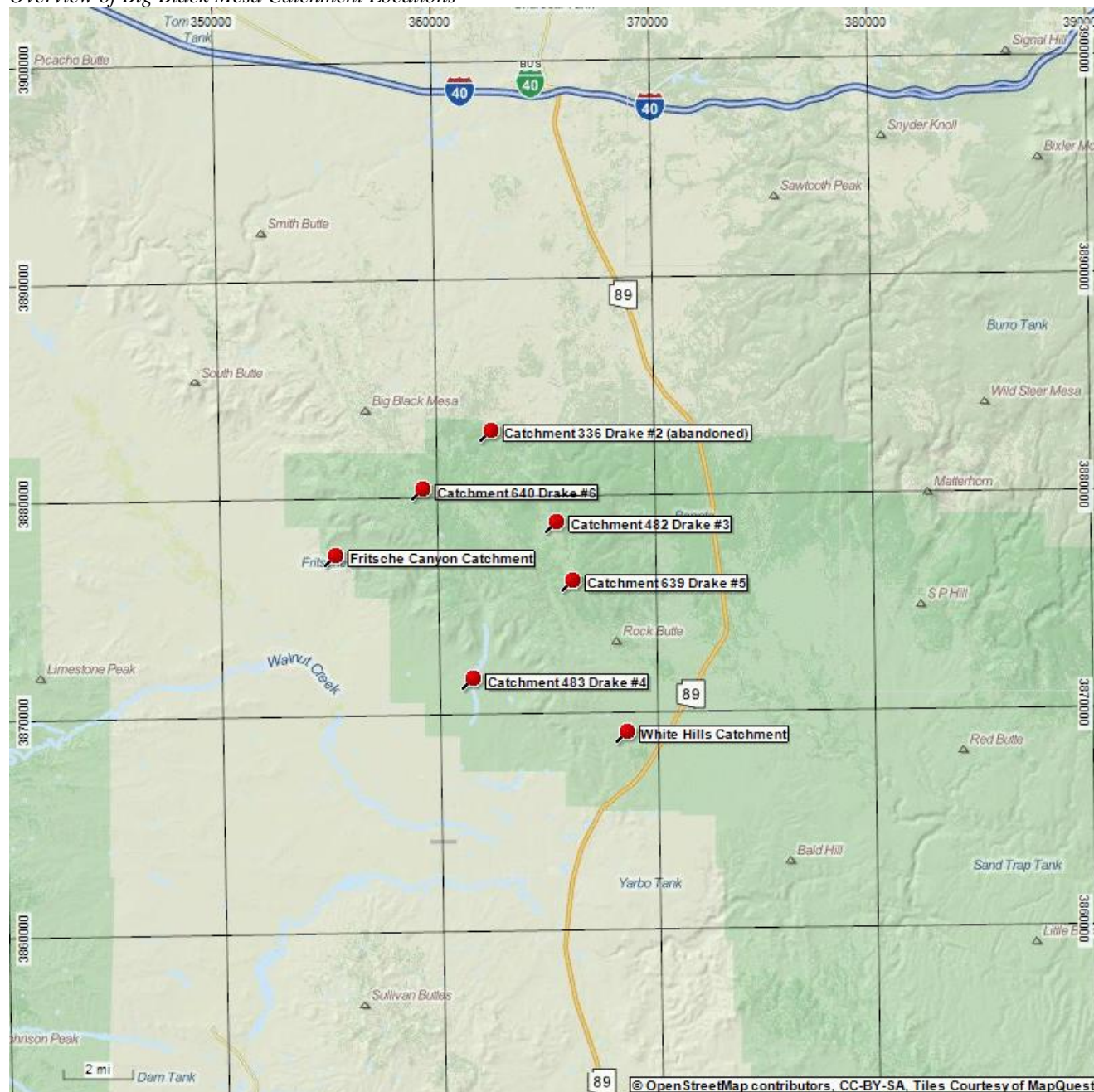
Catchment 483 Drake #4 / Purchase and install the following components:

- 3'd x 18'dia fiberglass ring tank (5,777 gallons)
- 3'd x 4'w Fiberglass Standard Walk-in trough
- 24' x 72' Apron
- Pipe rail livestock exclosure fence
- Miscellaneous materials and plumbing

PROJECT LOCATION:

The project is located in eastern GMU 19B, approximately 20 miles north of Prescott. SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 6, T18N, R2W. 0361540 3871302.

Overview of Big Black Mesa Catchment Locations



LAND OWNERSHIP AT THE PROJECT SITE(S):

(if the project area is private property, please state specifically and provide the landowner's name)

The project site is on public land administered by the Prescott National Forest, Chino Valley Ranger District, 735 North Highway 89, Chino Valley, AZ 86323, (928) 777 2200.

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A COOPERATIVE BIG GAME STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?
YES[] NO[] N/A[X]

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

Catchment 483 Drake #4 is located southwest of Big Black Mesa, which is the escarpment that bounds the north side of the Big Chino Valley. The catchment is located at the edge of the Big Chino grasslands in an open, dispersed juniper grassland.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

3'd x 18'dia fiberglass ring tanks (11,554 gallons)	\$10,010.00
3'd x 4'w Fiberglass Standard Walk-in trough	\$3,294.00
24' x 72' Apron	\$5,824.10
Pipe rail livestock exclosure fence	\$4,500.00
Miscellaneous materials and plumbing	\$1,000.00
Total Big Game Special Tag Funds Requested	\$24,628.10
AGFD Development Branch Labor and Engineering/Design	\$20,000.00
NEPA and Archeological Clearances	\$2,000.00
Total Cost Share Provided	\$22,000.00
Total Project Cost	\$46,628.10

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Arizona Game and Fish Department

- Region III Personnel will coordinate with other cooperators and provide overall project support and coordination.
- Development Branch Personnel will engineer the project, acquire the materials, and provide equipment and labor for demolition and construction efforts.

United States Forest Service

- Prescott National Forest Personnel will provide NEPA and Archeological clearances for the project (*Completed July, 2013).

Prescott HPC

- Coordinate project funding opportunities.

WOULD IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT ASSIST IN PROVIDING, MAINTAINING, OR FACILITATING RECREATIONAL ACCESS?

YES[X] NO[] N/A[]

This project would facilitate recreational access, specifically hunter access in GMU 19B. By maintaining reliable water sources for wildlife on publicly accessible lands in GMU 19B, hunter opportunity can be maintained or increased. Hunter access is a big issue in GMU 19B, as most of the unit (approximately 80%) is made up of private or inaccessible state lands. The location of this project is an important component, as it is on public lands (Prescott NF). Also, roads that are commonly used by the public and lead to wildlife waters are given priority in the travel management decision making process, keeping them open to the public.

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

After completion of this project, the new catchment will continue to be monitored and maintained as part of the AGFD Region III GMU 19B Water Development Protocol. It is anticipated this catchment will be inspected at least twice a year, with months between April and October being the focus.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

The new catchment will be maintained by the responsible AGFD Wildlife Manager. Small maintenance issues will be addressed by the Wildlife Manager, while larger issues will be the responsibility of the Development Branch. The long-term maintenance of the new catchment and storage system are expected to be very minimal.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Jake Fousek, Wildlife Manager, Region III

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (*please use the worksheet below*):

See worksheet below.

TREE CLEARING/REMOVAL PROJECTS (*please use the worksheet below*):

N/A

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Catchment 483 Drake #4 Redevelopment

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**
Yes.
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
Joe Currie, 2009-2013.
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)**
☐2-4 ☐4-6 ☐6-8 ☐8-10 ☒10-12 ☐12-14 ☐14-16 ☐ >16
- 4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**

YES☒ (please complete #5 below) NO☐ (skip #5 below)
- 5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**
Name of water source: Catchment 639 Drake #5
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank): Catchment
Ownership of water source: AGFD, on Prescott NF
Distance in miles from project: 3.75 Miles
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts? YES☐ NO☒**
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument). If private land, list landowner.**
N/A
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**
Type of access (mark one): ☒2x4 vehicles ☐4x4 only ☐foot only**

**If foot access only: Distance in miles: _____ Approximate hiking time: _____

-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES☐ NO☒

-- Please describe any restrictions to public access: None
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**
 - 3'd x 18'dia fiberglass ring tanks (5,777 gallons)
 - 3'd x 4'w Fiberglass Standard Walk-in trough
 - 24' x 72' Apron
 - Pipe rail livestock enclosure fence
 - Miscellaneous materials and plumbing
- 10) **Was a site visit completed? Yes☒ No☐**
If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

- Joe Currie visited the site with Bill Ough (retired WM) in 2009.
- James Gilsdorf and Noel Fletcher (PNF) visited the site with Jake Fousek on September 10, 2012.
- Terry Herndon and Bob Jacobs (MDF) visited the site with Jake Fousek on May 15, 2013.

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT TREE CLEARING/REMOVAL WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: _____

- 1) What is the estimated acreage of the project?**
- 2) How are the trees going to be cleared? (agra axe, chain saw, grubbing, push, chaining):**
- 3) What is the estimated number of trees per acre?**
- 4) Describe trees to be cleared (species, estimated diameter, single stem, multi-stem):**
- 5) Describe terrain (slope, soil type, rocks)**
- 6) Please list any special land management status for the project site (e.g. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument). If private land, list landowner.**
- 7) Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**
Type of access (mark one): ☐ 2x4 vehicles ☐ 4x4 only ☐ Foot only**

**If foot access only: Distance in miles: Approx. hiking time:

Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES ☐ NO ☐

Is the site relatively accessible for tree removal equipment? YES ☐ NO ☐

Please describe any restrictions to public access:

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

VOLUNTEER HOURLY RATES AND CLASSIFICATIONS WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: _____

The value of volunteer labor should be calculated at the hourly rate of an employee doing similar work, or using hourly rates from the Arizona Department of Administration's Human Resource web site, plus a standard ERE rate of 35%. http://www.hr.az.gov/HR_Professional/Class_Comp/PDF/alphacovered.pdf

\$0.445/mile should be the calculation used for mileage.

Water Development	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Habitat Restoration and Clean Up	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Fisheries	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Nongame Branch Project	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Misc/office work	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			varies	
Community Services	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$7.44	
Events and Other	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Research Branch	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$14.14	
Wildlife Area Hosts	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$17.44	
Education Programs	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Miles	Hourly Rate	Estimated Value
			\$16.07	
Totals				